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UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA  
MEDICAL SCHOOL

# CALIFORNIA STATE BOARD OF HEALTH

## Weekly Bulletin



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GUY P. JONES  
EDITOR

### Health Procedure Ends "Milk War."

Conditions within the dairy industry of Central California, last fall, gave rise to a "milk war," with sharp price cutting and combative competition. In San Joaquin County, the application of a public health procedure, ended this war. This procedure, the bacteriological test, became the vehicle for establishing commercial peace. The dairyman, now, who supplies clean milk receives a higher price for his product and the dairyman who supplies dirty milk receives a lower price. This bonus and penalty system has worked out to advantage and as a result, a better grade of milk is supplied to the residents of San Joaquin County, and at a fair price to both producer and consumer.

The following from the Stockton *Record*, gives detailed information on how clean milk ended a "milk war."

"That milk producers and distributors are conscientiously striving to deliver a milk product equalled by few, if any, cities of equal size in the state, under the recently adopted bonus and penalty system, which ended the so-called "milk war" here last fall, is indicated in a report prepared by Dr. John J. Sippy, head of the San Joaquin County Health District, relative to bacteria tests before and after the system went into effect. As will be recalled, the "milk war" began here when producers complained that the 18-cent wholesale price paid by distributors was too low and barely covered the cost of production.

Distributors, on the other hand, feared to grant an increase in price, anticipating that if they did so, the retail milk price of 12 cents per quart would necessarily have to be boosted.

### 23-Cent Rate Agreed Upon.

Following a series of conferences between the producers, distributors, representatives of the health district and chamber of commerce, the distributors agreed to a 23-cent wholesale milk price. This was paid for several weeks until the bonus and penalty system was worked out and then a contract for a year's period was signed, the contract providing for a co-operative plan of laboratory examinations through which the distributors would receive a higher price for higher qualities of milk.

### Health District Making Tests.

In order that the milk tests would be impartial, the local health district representative, H. C. Jackson, head of the sanitary division, and E. Behney, head of the dairy inspection division, agreed to make the tests and gradings. Expense involved has been paid by the distributors and producers on a fifty-fifty basis. Five distributors and twenty-six producers are now operating under this plan, paying about 15-100 cent per gallon for the service.

### Premium and Penalty Decided.

The 23-cent price is based on 3.6 milk. For every point of variation, the producer is paid one-fourth of a cent more, or a deduction is made, as the case may be. However, in an effort to secure a very high-grade milk, distributors of-



ferred a premium of one cent per gallon extra for milk testing under 25,000 bacteria. The producers then agreed to deduct one cent for milk over 50,000 bacteria test.

#### All Pleased With Results.

The contract has now been in effect about forty-five days and all parties concerned are highly pleased. George Sousa, spokesman for the producers, states that the dairymen are well pleased with the operation of the plan and that they are now receiving an advance of from 4 to 6 cents per gallon for their milk."

The following table indicates the improved quality of milk since the adoption of the bonus and penalty system.

Total bacteria of 121 counts	
prior to November 15-----	15,761,000
Total bacteria of 121 counts	
after November 15-----	5,799,000
Average count before Nov. 15-----	130,256
Average count after Nov. 15-----	39,661
Counts under 10,000 bacteria	
before Nov. 15-----	13 or 10.84%
Counts under 10,000 bacteria	
after Nov. 15-----	40 or 33.05%
Counts under 25,000 bacteria	
before Nov. 15-----	30 or 24.89%
Counts under 25,000 bacteria	
after Nov. 15-----	67 or 55.37%
Counts over 200,000 bacteria	
before Nov. 15-----	28 or 23.14%
Counts over 200,000 bacteria	
after Nov. 15-----	5 or 4.13%

Dr. Sippy says, "Of 5431 gallons of market milk consumed in San Joaquin county daily, the city of Stockton uses 4250 gallons, or 77.25 per cent. Of this 4250 gallons, 81.2 per cent is pasteurized. During the month of November the average bacterial count of this 81.2 per cent was before pasteurization 39,661, and after pasteurization 3921.

The average scores of this pasteurized supply for the past three-month period were as follows: September, 94.15; October, 94.18; November, 95.7.

While experience with the bonus and penalty system is brief, it seems that the plan is sound, and good results are apparent within a remarkably short period. The record is further remarkable from the fact that the product is being delivered to the householder at 12 cents per quart, or from 1 to 2 cents less than in surrounding cities.

#### Health Officer

#### Receives Appointment.

Dr. W. F. Mosher has been appointed City Health Officer of Holtville to succeed Mr. Dale C. Cooper.

#### "Don'ts" And "Dos" In Prevention Of Measles.

Unfortunately we do not have a definite means of preventing measles. There are, however, a few "don'ts" and "dos" which will help materially not only in preventing the spread of the disease but also in avoiding the frequent after effect of measles—pneumonia.

#### "DON'TS."

1. Don't allow a child with a cold, sore throat, or watery eyes to play with other children.
2. Don't allow a child suffering with any of these conditions to go to school.
3. Don't consider measles as a light disease as it is often very serious.
4. Don't forget that measles is frequently followed by pneumonia and can only be prevented by very painstaking care of the person who is recovering from measles.
5. Don't allow the child recovering from measles to get up and play around until your doctor advises it.
6. Don't allow the other children to get measles from the one who has it.

#### "DOS."

1. Look at the child's throat and eyes each morning just as carefully as you do the hands and face.
2. If the child has a cold, sore throat, a fever, watery eyes or any rash, keep him away from other children and call your doctor.
3. Follow the doctor's advice, most especially about the care of the child after he appears to be getting well.
4. Prevent pneumonia, which so often follows measles, by giving the child plenty of care, and time in which to get well.

Measles and pneumonia often go together. Use every effort to avoid both but above every thing else don't let pneumonia step in as a result of lack of after care of the patient.

—*Detroit Health Review.*



#### U. S. Infant Mortality Rate Shows Marked Drop.

A complete clinic on wheels is the latest addition to the equipment of the department of health of the Los Angeles Board of Education. The clinic is provided with complete sets of optometrists' and dentists' fixtures, thus eliminating the expense of furnishing these sets for the separate schools. By use of the movable clinic, two physicians and one nurse can look after the welfare of many children each day.



### Hygienic Laboratory Offers Varied Services.

The State Hygienic Laboratory is maintained by the California State Board of Health at Berkeley for the purpose of aiding in the control of communicable diseases. Its activities are therefore limited, so far as diagnosis is concerned, to those procedures having to do with the identification of specific infections and do not include clinical pathological examinations such as urinalysis, tumor diagnosis or blood counts.

The services of the laboratory are open to all county and city health officers, state institutions, county hospitals, health centers, official and unofficial, schools, public and private, and to all regularly licensed physicians in California. The hygienic laboratory does not accept specimens from communities that maintain their own laboratory approved by the State Board of Health.

For the convenience of all concerned, the laboratory distributes mailing containers for sending specimens. These mailing cases are made of cardboard with screw caps of tin and each contains the necessary sterile bottle or tube as the case may be, and a printed form to be filled out by the sender. Specimens not accompanied by the proper form completely filled out may be rejected. Never use, except in greatest emergency, any containers other than those appropriate for the examination desired, as this may result in loss of the specimen through improper routing in the laboratory. For example, a feces specimen in a sputum container may be sent direct to the autoclave where it would be ruined for any cultural examination.

The postage required on these containers is at present the letter rate of two cents per ounce, but later when new forms omitting the information regarding the method of reporting, (mail or telegraph) are put in use, the rate will be 4th class and they will still be pouched with letter mail.

Mailing containers for the following examinations are supplied on request;

1. Swabs for diphtheria.
2. Blood specimens for Widal test and culture.
3. Blood specimens for Wassermann test.
4. Blood specimens for Kellogg test for diphtheria immunity.
5. Blood smears for malaria.
6. Feces for typhoid, paratyphoid and bacillary dysentery.

7. Feces for protozoa and worms.
8. Sputum for tubercle bacilli.
9. Pus smears for gonococci.

Rabies examinations are made but no containers supplied. The head of the suspected animal should be detached from the body and packed in a mixture of ice and sawdust, placed in a water-tight can and sent by express prepaid with full information regarding symptoms of animal and whether or not anyone was bitten. A convenient container is a 5-gallon oil can which is sealed up by soldering.

Water specimens are handled by the Bureau of Sanitary Engineering, State Board of Health, Berkeley, and milk specimens by the State Department of Agriculture at Sacramento.



### More Suggestions For Keeping Well.

1. Do not follow ideas *because* they are new. Consider the "Laws of Moses" which have stood the test of more than thirty centuries. Modern science has explained to us their reasonableness, but it has not simplified or improved them for the purposes for which they were given.

2. Do not follow fads, or become extremists in your habit of life. If the Lord had intended you to be herbivorous he would not have given you teeth in the upper jaw. If carnivorous, you would have had canine teeth and claws with which to tear your meat. You were created to be omnivorous—therefore, eat plainly of a mixed diet. Fuel is necessary for the creation of energy, and oxygen for the combustion of fuel. As much energy is needed for mental effort as for physical. The working horse needs more grain than the one which stands in the stall.

3. Treat yourself as you would your bank account. Make more deposits than you draw checks and you will create a reserve which will be available in those physical and mental emergencies which come to us all. Many of the symptoms which we have and the conditions which are demonstrated on examination are simply notices from the bank that our account is overdrawn.

4. Circulatory disease is largely a personal affair and its prevalence is in inverse relation to the amount of physical work done in the fresh air. The more confining your occupation the more important it is for you to keep this in mind.

5. "This above all: to thine own self be true." Hamlet—Act 1, scene 3.

—Edwin W. Dwight, M. D., Boston.



**MORBIDITY.\*****Diphtheria.**

83 cases of diphtheria have been reported, as follows: Los Angeles 21, Los Angeles County 6, San Francisco 9, San Diego 11, Oceanside 1, Stockton 1, Orange County 4, Humboldt County 1, Oxnard 1, Alameda 1, Berkeley 1, Salinas 3, Sacramento 1, Yolo County 1, Santa Clara County 1, Oakland 4, Long Beach 2, Huntington Park 1, Tujunga 1, Hawthorne 1, Burbank 3, Maywood 1, Kern County 4, Covina 1, Corona 2.

**Measles.**

44 cases of measles have been reported, as follows: Santa Paula 13, San Francisco 6, Los Angeles 11, Whittier 2, Alhambra 1, San Fernando 1, Whittier 1, Fullerton 2, San Jose 1, Grass Valley 1, Mountain View 1, Burlingame 1, San Luis Obispo County 1, Pittsburg 1, San Diego 1.

**Scarlet Fever.**

165 cases of scarlet fever have been reported, as follows: Los Angeles 26, Los Angeles County 24, San Francisco 21, Santa Clara County 10, Oakland 8, San Jose 9, San Diego 8, Santa Barbara 1, Burbank 1, Signal Hill 1, Long Beach 4, Whittier 1, Huntington Park 3, Compton 2, Torrance 1, Maywood 1, Alhambra 1, Colton 1, Sacramento 1, Colusa County 1, Chico 1, San Bernardino County 3, Monterey County 1, Stockton 4, Lodi 2, Santa Ana 3, Santa Paula 1, Alameda 1, Bakersfield 1, Berkeley 2, Upland 3, Fresno County 3, Tulare County 1, Ontario 2, Stanislaus County 2, Yolo County 1, Hayward 1, Kern County 2, Imperial County 3, Claremont 1, Corona 2.

\*From reports received on January 11th and 12th for week ending January 9th.

**Smallpox.**

79 cases of smallpox have been reported, as follows: Los Angeles 26, Oakland 12, Los Angeles County 10, Sacramento 9, Long Beach 2, Lynwood 1, San Joaquin County 1, Roseville 2, San Jose 2, Richmond 4, Piedmont 1, Auburn 1, Placer County 2, Yolo County 1, Fairfield 4, Santa Barbara 1.

**Typhoid Fever.**

11 cases of typhoid fever have been reported, as follows: Los Angeles County 3, Calaveras County 2, Kern County 1, Riverside County 1, Los Angeles 3, San Diego 1.

**Whooping Cough.**

102 cases of whooping cough have been reported, as follows: Long Beach 16, Santa Barbara 23, Oakland 9, Riverside 7, San Fernando 7, Orange County 6, San Diego 5, Los Angeles 3, Piedmont 2, Pasadena 3, Tulare County 1, San Francisco 2, Richmond 3, Palo Alto 2, Alameda 4, Berkeley 1, Los Banos 1, Fresno County 2, South Pasadena 2, Claremont 3.

**Epidemic Meningitis.**

4 cases of epidemic meningitis have been reported, as follows: Oakland 1, San Francisco 1, Los Angeles County 1, Los Angeles 1.

**Poliomyelitis.**

Tulare County reported one case of poliomyelitis.

**Epidemic Encephalitis.**

Redwood City reported one case of epidemic encephalitis.

**Leprosy.**

Sonoma County reported one case of leprosy.

**COMMUNICABLE DISEASE REPORTS.**

Disease	1925-1926				1924-1925			
	Week ending			Reports for week ending Jan. 9 received by Jan. 12	Week ending			Reports for week ending Jan. 10 received by Jan. 13
	Dec. 19	Dec. 26	Jan. 2		Dec. 20	Dec. 27	Jan. 3	
Anthrax.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Botulism.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Chickenpox.....	184	155	220	303	233	172	249	337
Diphtheria.....	136	76	81	83	214	173	156	141
Dysentery (Bacillary).....	0	0	0	0	1	1	5	3
Epidemic Encephalitis.....	4	1	3	1	1	2	2	1
Epidemic Meningitis.....	7	3	4	4	2	2	2	0
Gonorrhoea.....	141	43	75	108	59	73	66	72
Influenza.....	40	101	186	355	19	14	23	37
Leprosy.....	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Malaria.....	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	0
Measles.....	26	14	30	44	49	20	35	32
Mumps.....	124	119	169	286	66	41	106	117
Pneumonia (lobar).....	75	50	73	125	68	112	140	100
Poliomyelitis.....	7	7	2	1	9	5	4	3
Scarlet Fever.....	147	95	138	165	133	138	128	158
Smallpox.....	64	62	54	79	105	86	121	108
Syphilis.....	102	68	87	141	99	78	75	195
Tuberculosis.....	160	193	126	166	178	93	158	186
Typhoid Fever.....	17	14	10	11	10	6	22	19
Whooping Cough.....	32	36	70	102	77	75	64	134
Totals.....	1266	1038	1329	1975	1324	1092	1357	1643

CALIFORNIA STATE PRINTING OFFICE